

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Dale Anderson <dalea@artemis.fc.hp.com>
Subject: [8965] 10 Meters!!!!
Message-ID: <199605241649.AA068586590@artemis.fc.hp.com>

To the point...

10m IS open!

Heard WA6AGO/BCN (Long Beach, CA) blasting in here at 599 abt 0330Z. Also heard K7SK/B (Des Moines, WA) at 549 around the same time. Worked my FIRST SSB (as well as first 10m) contact, Mark in San Jose. Not bad considering I was force-feeding a 40m dipole to do it! Time to hide a 10m Vertical in a flagpole

The CW segment (novice) was pretty quiet besides the forementioned beacons and a hand full of QSOs. Heard CW QSOs from 2's, 5's, 6's es 9's. The phone segment was almost crowded! So tho' the band condx were good, there just weren't many working CW. Bummer.

So check out 10m if you can. You may be surprised.

-Dale, KB0VCC
Fort Collins, CO

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Herb Henson <102200.1642@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [8963] AN/GRC-109
Message-ID: <960524164402_102200.1642_HH060-1@CompuServe.COM>

QRP-L Gang,

Thanks to all for the numerous offline responses to my inquiry about where to find an AN/GRC-109 radio. Thanks especially to Dan, KC4EWT, who even typed out the applicable Fair Radio catalog page for me! For anyone else interested in this or other military surplus radios, try

Fair Radio
P.O. Box 1105
Lima, Ohio 45802
419-223-2196

24-hr FAX 419-227-1313

Herb - K06Z
(They have a catalog)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: jwg6@cornell.edu (Joel Govostes)
Subject: [8931] Confused about current flow
Message-ID: <v02120000adcb5bc5f6d4@[132.236.155.153]>

I was reviewing some basic radio info by Doug Demaw with the intent of helping my son study for his ticket (he's 10 and interested).

Some confusion arose when it came to current flow in a circuit, and i couldn't come up with a good explanation. Perhaps some of you who are into circuit design and construction could help?

Current flow as i have understood it is from negative (with excess supply of electrons) to positive (where there is a deficit). SO in a tube circuit, for instance, the cathode is negative (supplies current in form of surplus of electrons) and the plate is positive (deficit of electrons, attracts current from cathode). Dandy.

SO why do i then see current described as flowing from + to - in the book? And why is the positive side of a connector considered "hot" and the negative, ground side cold? Isn't it the negative side where the electrons are coming from?? What gives? Sorry this is so elementary but i honestly don't get the convention.

Thanks muchly/73

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Dave Fifield <fifield@lan.nsc.com>
Subject: [8979] Design Contest Entrant
Message-ID: <31A60CCC.2FAD@lan.nsc.com>

Guys,

Add my name to the list of people who will be submitting qrp related designs (plural) to Doug for the design contest.

Even if my designs are not selected as winners, they will probably still get published in QRPP or some other journal anyway, so the effort will not go unrewarded.

Speaking as an entrant, I intend to be secretive about my designs and won't be posting anything to the list until they are done (when I shall need a few volunteer testers maybe). I suspect most of the other designers amongst us will have a similar philosophy.

'Net result (pun intended) = minor amounts of listtraffic (new word?).

72, Dave Fifield

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|--      KQ6FR      --|
--||      QRP-L  #92      ||--
|--      Norcal #1486      --|
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: M Faulkner <mike@g0ifk.u-net.com>
Subject: [8977] E's
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19960524194444.006721b8@mail.u-net.com>

Hi guys.

Well looks like the E season is upon us. Upon visiting the shack tonight 1930 gmt, 10m was open to most of EU

Managed to work into DL, YU, F and 3A. It seemed like when I first got my ticket in 1987, all I had then was a converted SSB CB rig. No cw but I managed to hook up an audio tone to the mic socket and keyed it. Worked great, even added a volume control to it and hey presto G0IFK and QRP got together.

Anyway am going to hang around 10m for a while and see what develops. Lots of QSB at the moment but maybe over the weekend things may improve. (pity I'm working Saturday)

73 es 72

Mike G0IFK G-QRP 3883

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: "Rafael Garcia (EA4RJ)" <tie@bitmailer.net>

Subject: [8960] Email to Marty, KD8BJ

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960524114432.281B-100000@ea4rj.ampr.org>

(Sorry for the bandwidth one more time. I'm trying to fix the problem with our e-mail addresses)

Marty,

I received your message without problems to my account. I must tell you I also had problems with this listsrver at Lehigh.EDU. Jim Eshleman had found something in the listserver that was rejecting my domain name, ie. bitmailer.net. Please check with your sys admin if there is something that could do it the same.

I'm sending this message Cc to qrp-l. You might get twice if all it's working fine.

I'd prefer to contact you directly instead to waste bandwidth through the entire list.

Anyway, take my phone number at home, please: 439 0247 You can give me a call when you'll be here.

Let me know if you find which would be the problem with the accounts.

73,

Rafael,
Madrid (Spain)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996

From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>

Subject: [8981] ExpII variable filter

Message-ID: <9605242053.AA08650@voder.nsc.com>

I picked up and Explorer II from Bob. What a nice rig.

It has a variable passband filter but when the filter is on full the pitch of the tone is very high. Is there a way to align the filter to a pitch more to my liking, say 650Hz?

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=====
NCARC Superfest, June 1st, Larimer County Fairgrounds, Colorado
=====
AA0UB  TMPS 1996 Qs=005  States=04  Confirmed=00  DX=01
CA LA OR SC
=====
7.3 de Michael AA0UB      miker@cc.com      michael@frii.com
      http://www.frii.com/~michael
      QRP-L #126      Norcal #857      CQC #180
=====

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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
 From: Grover <SIXPENCE@worldnet.att.net>
 Subject: [8983] FASC & License Testing in Other Countries
 Message-ID: <199605242132.VAA12968@mailhost.worldnet.att.net>

Nao:

Does ARRL have, or can it get, information on the manner of testing for HAM licenses in other IARU member countries? Specically are the tests conducted and funded by government agencies and if so what are the costs to the licensee?

What are the governmental involvements in preparing the licensees for examination?

Is there data as to the type of licenses by country e.g. classes/privileges - VHF/UHF, HF-CW, HF-SSB etc,? If data is not currently available, or codified, can it be developed from sources available to ARRL?

72 y Paz ..Grover KQ4AL <Sixpence@worldnet.att.net>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
 From: mizrahi@svlhp8.scs.philips.com
 Subject: [8988] fixed offset for the 40-9er (take 2)
 Message-ID: <9605250132.AA09771@svln20.scs.philips.com>

I've been tinkering a little with the offset circuit I posted last week and here are the results so far.

We had too much parallel capacitance from D3, which caused the offset to vary fast at the higher frequencies, so we added a series capacitor C1.

This cap blocks DC so biasing D3 now requires the R4 resistor.

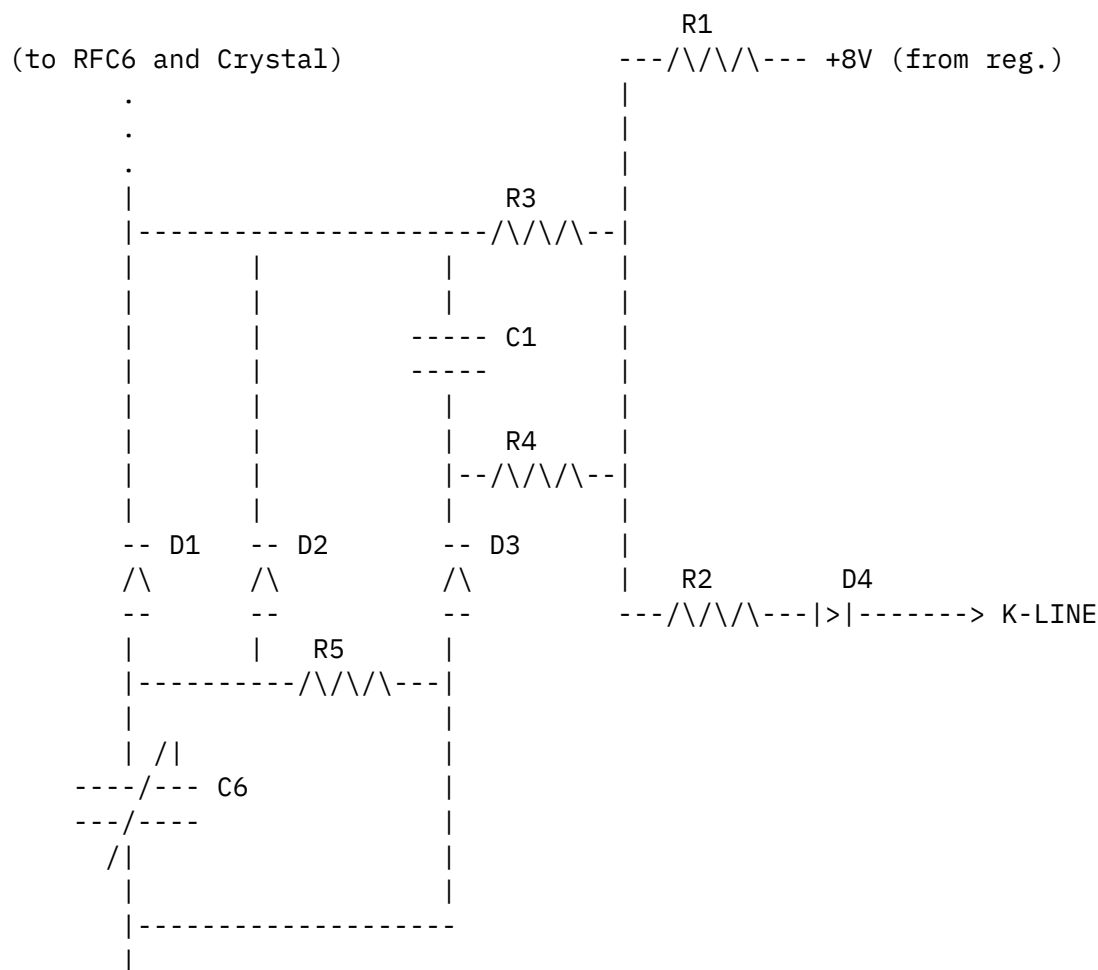
The results are as follows:

Receive tuning range: 7039.30 - 7041.87 MHz
Offset range: 470 - 530 Hz (throughout the tuning range,
higher frequency on receive)
Power (12V): 730 mW @ 7039.30
585 mW @ 7040.50
265 mW @ 1041.50

Power dropped with the latest revision at the higher frequency range. Next we'll try to increase the low frequency range even more, it seems that we can achieve more power there.

The radio still uses molded inductors but the output filter was replaced with the 470-1.5-470 filter, which yielded better power before.

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73 DE ORI AC6AN
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notes: the 5pF (parallel with C6) MUST BE REMOVED from the circuit.

components: D1, D2 : 1N4001
 D3 : 1N4006
 D4 : 1N914 (or equ.)
 R1 : 62K
 R2 : 30K
 R3, R4, R5 : 100K
 C1 : 15pF
 C6 : (variable cap from the kit)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: "dfisher@us.oracle.com" <DFISHER@us.oracle.com>
Subject: [8946] Fwd: Confused about current flow
Message-ID: <199605241453.HAA22849@mailsun2.us.oracle.com>

Regarding current flow vs electron flow.

My recollection of history (not the actual events--I was not there!) is that Ben Franklin gave us the concept of current flow after someone suggested he go fly a kite. The historical facts are vague; i.e., no one knows if he was trying to put up an 80 meter vertical to work DX, or if he was just goofing off.

In any event, the consensus is that he was using a conductor, and he got sparks to jump from a key (the story assumed it was a house-type key, but maybe it was for CW!) to some kind of ground connection.

Anyway, he apparently jumped to the conclusion that the zap was coming from the clouds to the ground, and referred to it as current. As we know, later archeologists found an excess of electrons in the earth while digging to string radials for their antenna farms.

Thus, for those of you who are completely confused at this point, old Ben thought that current flowed from the clouds to ground, while scientists finally determined that electrons flowed from earth to the sky.

I guess this ties in pretty nicely with the recent thread about arcing in tuners, etc.

However, it doesn't put to rest the notion that old Ben was a ham trying to work QRP DX.

Regards,

Donn
W6NMH
SF Bay area.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: [8980] HW9, worth?
Message-ID: <01I536Z8IS7M9X3IP9@tntech.edu>

There is a new member to our university club. He was a professional Electronic Technician, now finishing up his master's in EE. He is somewhat of a perfectionist. He has a mint HW9 with matching supply and tuner that he wants to sell. I believe this to be a very carefully assembled set of units.

What is this worth?

He wants to build the Sierra (for more portability).

thanks
72
Jeff, AC4HF

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Bob Hirsch <bobh@p3.net>
Subject: [8917] IARU/FASC
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19960524033851.00692168@p3.net>

To the list (and especially Jim, Gary, and Tom):

The concerns are very valid; but the target is a little off base. The question here and the one we should all be trying to answer is: How to convince all the national administrations that they should BE BOUND BY

TREATY to test CW proficiency for license applicants. This is the question the committee needs our help to answer. If we come up with this answer the committee will have the ammunition to fight any changes in the WRC 99 if the issue comes up.

It's not a matter of whether you want to keep CW testing or even if we all want to keep CW testing. At this point in time, it is an International issue, not a national one.

Figure out how to sell the idea to all the national administrations that are short on money and looking for things to cut why they should continue to be treaty bound to test for CW proficiency in the 21st century and THEN we can worry about getting the ARRL to sell it to the WRC-99 conference and all the regional conferences starting in Tel-Aviv in Sept 96 and ending with Region 2 in 1998.

We will not know if the ARRL is on our side or not until we can offer an answer to the above question, because the answer to that question is the only ammunition that counts, without it nobody, the ARRL included can fire a shot whether they want to or not.

So, once more: What are your ideas as to how to convince a government official in all the different national administrations why he should commit to being *bound by treaty* to continue CW proficiency testing?

=====

73 es CUL de KE3OB

Bob Hirsch
bobh@p3.net

qrp-arc1 #8700 qrp-1 #450
ARRL

=====

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: thom.lacosta@fido261.qis.net (Thom LaCosta)
Subject: [8947] Info Files via E-Mail
Message-ID: <7a7_9605241055@fido261.qis.net>

Hello All!

For those that don't have easy access to ftp or www ...
The following files are available via e-mail. Send a message

to the address listed and the gateway here will send the file to you as an e-mail message.

tubelist@fido261.qis.net	tubes.txt	Tube Suppliers
megalist@fido261.qis.net	megalist.txt	The Megalist
iaru@fido261.qis.net	iaru.txt	IARU No Code Text
xtals@fido261.qis.net	xtals.txt	Crystal Suppliers
manuals@fido261.qis.net	manuals.txt	Manual Suppliers
dealers@fido261.qis.net	dealers.txt	Ham Radio Dealers
unused@fido261.qis.net	unused.txt	Unused Call SIGns

Thom LaCosta
N3WDV
Our Business is Business
--

|Fidonet: Thom LaCosta 1:261/1352
|Internet: thom.lacosta@fido261.qis.net
|Standard disclaimer: Take a Naugha to Lunch today!

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Stan Skelton <sskelton@cln.etc.bc.ca>
Subject: [8957] J-Poles (no lge encoded file attached)
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9605240804.A13069-0100000@sparky>

Hi all...sorry if this isn't considered "pure" qrp, but at 2 watts max on 2 meters, sometimes the rubber dummy antenna just can't cut through the rocks here in the mountains. I've heard of a "flexible" J-Pole made of 300 ohm tv twin lead that can be rolled up and put in your pocket, and still give a gain of 2-3.....Anyone know of a source for plans to "homebrew" this goodie?

Again, sorry for the bandwidth, you can e-mail direct to me if you think qrp-l isn't the place for this topic.

btw: at least there's no lge encoded list attached!
TtFn....Stan T.M. VE7 SKT QRP-L #34

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [8936] Last call for DX Ten-Tec surveys?

Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9605240719.C9731-01000000@w3eax.umd.edu>

I have to send in a check to Ten-Tec for some parts I bought (rev. 5.1 firmware for OMNI V - solved quirky bugs, budget keyer kit).

I plan to send in the DX surveys I have received. If you'd like to add to the envelope, PLEASE fill out the survey today and e-mail it to me in whatever format.

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19 QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
*** VHF @ <25w, HF @ <5w *** Save a cake, pound BRASS instead ***
* 138 cfd with dipoles * QRP-L #147 QRP ARCI #9054 DXCC/WAS/WAC *
* 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w * 145.490- 147.225+ PL 156.7 *

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996

From: "Lau, Zack, KH6CP" <zlau@arrl.org>

Subject: [8968] Low voltage LNAs

Message-ID: <m0uN0TI-000RDKC@mgate.arrl.org>

The latest PHEMTs do just fine off a regulated 2.5V power supply, I've had good luck with the expensive NE32684A (\$25) on all bands from 903 to 10 GHz. You might base a design on the newer FETs, which are much cheaper, have lower NFs with more gain (NEC 32584C, HP 36077). I intend to try the new NEC device on 24 GHz (need to find more weekends..).

Hewlett Packard sells tiny bipolar transistors and ICs in SOT-363 packages you might consider. These are even optimized for low voltage operation. But, at least one person has complained about them being too small. Three of these 6-legged devices fits on end of a pencil eraser (one of their ads). But, with 0402 cased resistors and caps, you could make a real tiny QRP rig.

Zack KH6CP/1

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996

From: ae4ic@nr.infi.net (BOB KELLOGG)

Subject: [8985] MFJ 941

Message-ID: <199605242131.RAA26774@mh004.infi.net>

Gang,

I picked up one of these tuners at Dayton. It has a single meter, and evidently uses the differential method of displaying Power/SWR. I mean, they are added together, and the meter displays the result (I guess)

Does anyone use one of these for QRP? Does it work well for QRP? Any comments?

It looks like it should do the job, but it seems to be rated for up to 300 watts, so I'm wondering about the low end.

Thanks.

CUL,
Bob Kellogg, AE4IC
Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Paul Ridley_ <pridley@swcp.com>
Subject: [8918] Mint boxes
Message-ID: <01BB48F2.5D01B8A0@ppp42.swcp.com>

While driving from Albuquerque to Okla City this last weekend, we =
stopped by a Cracker Barrel store. There I found the Altoids mint boxes =
that everyone is using to place their 49er in. They also have several =
other tin boxes in various shapes and sizes with different candy and =
food products. These make great containers for radio kits. I've seen the =
Cracker Barrel stores and restaurants in several citys, but never =
shopped in one until now. --Very interesting--

pridley@swcp.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: ruswhite@netzone.com (Russell W. White)
Subject: [8919] Non-Skid(slip) surface
Message-ID: <199605240418.VAA14694@nz1.netzone.com>

In The area of Walgreens Drug store where they have contact paper for shelves I found a product which may come in handy for keeping things in their place. What I needed was something to keep my Vibroplex Bug from slipping around on the table. What I found was "Grip Liner" by Rubbermaid. It comes in a roll and was 1ft x 5ft.

de ab7jx

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: rnygren@epix.net (Bob Nygren)
Subject: [8956] QRP Automatic Antenna Tuner

Hi Gang,

I picked this info up in the flea market at Dayton. It looks like the perfect project for the QRP'r who has everything.

QRP Automatic Antenna Tuner

- * Based on the AT-11 Automatic Tuner (Jan QST I think)
- * Microprocessor controlled
- * High efficiency switched "L" network
- * 1.8 - 30.0 MHz Coverage
- * Tunes 8 to 650 ohm loads
- * For dipoles, verticals or any coax fed antenna
- *** Small size. 3.5 by 4.0 by 0.5 inches ***
- * Low power, 15 mA after tune
- * Uses latching relays
- * Tunes in less than 2 sec.
- * 12 V operation

The ad stated \$150 + \$8 shipping. Due out this summer.

LDG Electronics, 1445 Parran Rd, ST. Leonard, MD 20685
<http://www.radix.net/~ldg> email: ldg@radix.net

In the flea market they were selling the 100 watt version for \$180 which included the case. The price without the case was \$150 but they didn't have any of these by the time I got there. :-(

Usual disclaimer applies: I have no interest of any kind in this company. Information is presented solely for your reading pleasure.

73, Bob WA3YON <rnygren@epix.net>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Subject: [8969] Re[2]: IARU/FASC
Message-ID: <9604248329.AA832958436@mail.creo.bc.ca>

Let's *please* keep this debate off QRP-L!

The very future of Amateur Radio could very well be on the line - we sit on lots of spectrum that most of us never use. If we are to discuss such things here, let's worry about what matters (i.e. what is the function of Amateur Radio in the 21st Century), and not waste bandwidth on trivialities.

I have two standard questions that I ask all born again supporters of a CW requirement. One is "When was the last time you built a piece of radio equipment?" The other is "What is the highest frequency you have generated or detected RF on?"

Food for thought Dept.: I'm leaving tonight on a business trip to Brussels, and folks may be interested to know that Belgian hams face severe restrictions on homebrewing gear. The nastiest is that portable and mobile operation with homebrew gear is not allowed. Base station gear requires official inspection and acceptance before you can use it on the air. The message I get is that the Belgian powers-that-be either don't consider ON hams to be a technical lot, or don't trust them to build good radios. I find both alternatives disturbing...and I hope people see what I mean about wasting bandwidth on trivialities!

Laura Halliday VE7LDH
lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
ve7ldh@amsat.org
Locator: CN89mg

"C'est une femme mutine, assez
elegante, grave et legere, ayant le
sens du confort et du plaisir
en tout." - C. Deneuve

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: BWHITTEM@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com
Subject: [8955] rs dsp mods
Message-ID: <1a5d7d40@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

has anyone looked into new code to improve the rs dsp?
that might be a good project for a software guru.
they are cheap now, i just found one locally for 35 bucks.
ill get it at lunch time.
73
barry
wb1edi

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Ron Giuntini <rong@slip.net>
Subject: [8921] RS DSP QST Review
Message-ID: <E0uMoyn-0001H7-00@fox>

There is a product review of the Radio Shack DSP filter in the July 94 QST. For those that do not have that issue on hand I think you might like the following information;

From QST ARRL Lab measurements;

Freq response;	CW wide	255-1258Hz
	med	462-1055
	nar	580-925
	SSB wide	300-3110Hz
	med	400-2770
	nar	650-2170
	NR wide	200-3100Hz
	med	200-2660
	nar	200-2160
Harmonic Distortion		0.36%
Signal to Noise Ratio		55dB
Heterodyne Rejection		45dB (SSB/NR mode)
Noise reduction	None--See article This is NOT a noise	
reducing	device. It is, instead a	
bandpass	filter. It "achieves	
noise reduction in	all modes by	
limiting bandwidth."		

Anyway, QST reports that this device WILL eliminate carrier noise, heterodynes, and CW identifiers on FM transmissions. It is not useful for CW. Just about what I got from reading the postings on this group before I reread the QST article. One thing that did surprise me was the fact that I remembered it from about two years ago. I thought it was much more recent. That shows how time flys and also how useful QST reviews are even if you do not need them at the time they appear. I picked up one of these for 34.95 and there were plenty at the store here.

KB6GK Ron
San Francisco

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Roger L Traylor <Roger_L_Traylor@ccm.jf.intel.com>
Subject: [8986] Solar Cell Suppliers?

Gang,

Could anyone give me a pointer to suppliers of solar cells. I'm looking for small, low current cells (<50ma), not car battery charger size cells. I've already found some in Digi-Dey, All Electronics and Edmund Scientific.

Thanks,

Roger Traylor WB4TPW

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Dale Anderson <dalea@artemis.fc.hp.com>
Subject: [8959] Thanks...
Message-ID: <199605241602.AA298813759@artemis.fc.hp.com>

Thanks to the dozens of people who responded to my QRPp level Watt Meter query. The overwhelming response was for the OHR VM-1. I must be the only one on QRP-L who doesn't own one. Humbling thought.

Tnx agn es 72/73!
-Dale, KB0VCC / QRP-L#91 / CQC#251

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: kub@upl.com (Steve Kubisch)
Subject: [8982] W1FB Noise Reduction Unit
Message-ID: <9605242106.AA11467@ringworld.pacificorp.com>

Hi,

In the latest issue of CQ W1FB has a construction article on a Noise reduction unit. It appears similar in operation to the JSP unit that is available commercially. It uses a short sensing antenna to receive local QRN which is cancelled out by phase inversion with the signal from the station antenna.

Interesting article, Have any of you used a similar device and with what success? I have intermittent local QRN that can really ruin a nite of QRP or foxhunting.

73,
Steve -WW7Y-

P.S. Does this list seem rather "POSTal" today?? ; >)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)
Subject: [8987] weekly propagation forecast
Message-ID: <v02130502adcbec8f29b1@[192.91.202.41]>

Nice quiet week forecast...no predicted storms, and low solar flux, around 68. As lots of folks have noted, plenty of sporadic E activity. Talked to a guy in Fort Worth Texas this morning around 930 mst...about 900 miles. He came up real strong, then faded away in a matter of minutes. 29.6 Mhz (checking out a GFE radio, so I was monitoring during burn in...;-)

Kent Torell torell@sicom.com 602-483-2867 x40
SICOM 7585 E. Redfield, #202 Scottsdale, AZ 85260
AB70A TMPS 1996 Qs=008 States=07 Confirmed=01 DX=00
AZ CO HI KS OK OR WA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: mjsilva@ix.netcom.com (michael silva)
Subject: [8937] Re: Confused about current flow
Message-ID: <199605241306.GAA16158@dfw-ix4.ix.netcom.com>

>Some confusion arose when it came to current flow in a circuit, and i
>couldn't come up with a good explanation. Perhaps some of you who are
>into circuit design and construction could help?
>
>Current flow as i have understood it is from negative (with excess
>supply of electrons) to positive (where there is a deficit)....
>
>SO why do i then see current described as flowing from + to - in the
>book?
>And why is the positive side of a connector considered "hot" and the
>negative, ground side cold?

Coming from the tube world as a kid I fought the "positive current" convention in college for a while, but then I just gave in and found it to be much easier. Now my mind automatically switches between negative (electron) current when looking at tube circuits, and positive

(conventional) current for solid state. The fact is that in most situations it doesn't really matter which way the electrons are flowing! The big advantage with conventional current flow for solid state is that the arrows in the symbols point in the direction of the current flow. There is also the convenient notion of current flowing into the base of a (NPN) transistor, similar to voltage into the grid of a tube. My advice is to give in to the convention and let the current (in your mind) flow in the direction of the arrows. Before long you won't even think about electrons, just "current".

The convention of positive being "hot" comes from the tube era, where the common terminal in the circuit was the negative one and the main supply voltage was positive. With transistors we use NPNs much more frequently so the same convention makes the most sense. With an all (or mostly) PNP circuit it would be more convenient to have the positive lead as common. Also, automobiles have their batteries wired with the negative to the chassis, so you want your equipment chassis to be negative as well or when your chassis touches a metal part of the car you're putting a short across the car battery -- very spectacular.

73,
Mike, KK6GM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Grover <SIXPENCE@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [8984] Re: FASC
Message-ID: <199605242132.VAA12967@mailhost.worldnet.att.net>

Sir Gurnee: You deserve the "Blue Ribbon" for service and ingenuity.

72 y Paz ..Grover KQ4AL <Sixpence@worldnet.att.net>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: "M. E. Monninger" <markem@primenet.com>
Subject: [8964] Re: Fwd: Confused about current flow
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19960524094734.002ed4a8@mailhost.primenet.com>

At 07:46 AM 5/24/96 -0700, Donn wrote:

> ...

>However, it doesn't put to rest the notion that old Ben was a ham

>trying to work QRP DX.

>

Hmmm...don't know if using lightning would be considered QRP but the rest of Donn's explanation is pretty much the way I remember it being explained way back when in school.

73... Mark AA7TA

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: myers@bigboy73.West.Sun.COM (Dana Myers)
Subject: [8920] Re: IARU/FASC
Message-ID: <199605240431.VAA08736@sunspot.West.Sun.COM>

> From bobh@p3.net Thu May 23 20:41:12 1996
> Subject: IARU/FASC

OK, if we want to turn qrp-l into rec.radio.amateur.policy for a while, I guess I can participate.

> To the list (and especially Jim, Gary, and Tom):
>
> The concerns are very valid; but the target is a little off base. The
> question here and the one we should all be trying to answer is: How to
> convince all the national administrations that they should BE BOUND BY
> TREATY to test CW proficiency for license applicants. This is the question
> the committee needs our help to answer. If we come up with this answer the
> committee will have the ammunition to fight any changes in the WRC 99 if the
> issue comes up.

Actually, we've got what appears to be a really important opportunity here, something far beyond details. When the issue of the Morse requirement came up at the last WRC, they decided not to examine this one little issue, but instead to take a look at the entire notion of amateur radio.

The IARU/FASC are asking the broad, general question; paraphrasing, what should the requirements be in the amateur examination process as we move into the future?

This isn't asking what questions should be on the tests, or whether we should keep a Morse code requirement.

[...]

> Figure out how to sell the idea to all the national administrations that are

> short on money and looking for things to cut why they should continue to be
> treaty bound to test for CW proficiency in the 21st century and THEN we can
> worry about getting the ARRL to sell it to the WRC-99 conferece and all the
> regional conferences starting in Tel-Aviv in Sept 96 and ending with Region
> 2 in 1998.

Before you figure out how to sell the Morse code requirement, you're going to have to figure out how to convince the WRC that they even want to buy the Morse code requirement for the next century.

> We will not know if the ARRL is on our side or not until we can offer an
> answer to the above question, because the answer to that question is the
> only ammunition that counts, without it nobody, the ARRL included can fire a
> shot whether they want to or not.

This is awfully militant talk, about ammunition and shots. This isn't war, at least not if we make it. This is about *thinking* and making some difficult decisions about the future of amateur radio, not scheming how to preserve a bit of the past of amateur radio.

The simple fact that there is a Morse code requirement today isn't a precedent for a Morse code requirement in 1999. There's got to be a reason for the Morse code requirement that is supported by the desired/expected/intended future direction of amateur radio.

> So, once more: What are your ideas as to how to convince a government
> official in all the different national administrations why he should commit
> to being *bound by treaty* to continue CW proficiency testing?

My idea? I'm going to wait and think a little (to let the knee-jerk reaction to the FASC paper subside, and then write the best, short, comment I can which talks about the future of amateur radio, and I'll probably implore the IARU to leave the Morse code requirement in 20th century.

But you can bet I'll take Morse code with me into the 21st century, and share it with others.

Dana
KK6JQ

Dana.Myers@West.Sun.Com
<http://www.source.net/~dana/>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996

From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>
Subject: [8929] Re: IARU/FASC
Message-ID: <199605241202.IAA47336@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>So, once more: What are your ideas as to how to convince a government
>official in all the different national administrations why he should commit
>to being *bound by treaty* to continue CW proficiency testing?

Let's make a deal: I won't argue code .vs. no-code on QRP-L if nobody else
does. People have tried to tout "gentleman's agreements" on this list
before. Let's have one now....

>>>==>PStJTT

=====
Patrick Taber (KC1TD) Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com
Principal Software Engineer
Logiccraft Information Services
22 Cotton Road
Nashua N.H. 03063

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Pat Bingham <fcz40a@lfwc.lockheed.com>
Subject: [8930] Re: IARU/FASC
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.93.960524072408.3522A-100000@jake>

On Fri, 24 May 1996, Pat Taber wrote:

> >So, once more: What are your ideas as to how to convince a government
> >official in all the different national administrations why he should commit
> >to being *bound by treaty* to continue CW proficiency testing?

>

> Let's make a deal: I won't argue code .vs. no-code on QRP-L if nobody else
> does. People have tried to tout "gentleman's agreements" on this list
> before. Let's have one now....

>

> >>>==>PStJTT

>

> =====
> Patrick Taber (KC1TD) Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com
> Principal Software Engineer
> Logiccraft Information Services

> 22 Cotton Road
> Nashua N.H. 03063
>
>
>
>

I have no intention of abiding by such an agreement. Vvery 73

Pat, K5ETX

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: James Bell <jim.bell@canada.cdev.com>
Subject: [8933] RE: IARU/FASC
Message-ID: <199605241243.IAA129696@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

As a Radio Amateur of many years standing,I have been involved
in almost all aspects of H.F. comms.

One of the FEW reasons that I can think of that is really
persuasive to retain C.W. as either an entrance requirement or
as a mode of operation is the current lack of usable BANDWIDTH.
With increasing pressure and usage of our allocated spectrum
width we are witnessing the crowding of greater numbers of
signals into the bands. We in turn have responded with the
development and adaptation of different modes (data) and greater
selectivity in equipment.

In this Computer age there is a move toward using more of the
new Data types of transmission.MORSE CODE no longer stands alone
in the usage of very narrow bandwidth.I am encouraged to hear
QRP stations using RTTY, AMTOR and PACTOR as well as CW.

If the IARU/FASC or whoever want to have a no code requirement,
then let us --in turn-- request additional spectrum allocation
to accomodate the new generation of HIGH-TEC HAMS who will be
required to use and develop the new DATA MODES and who will no
doubt use their computers to send and receive Morse Code.

The last thing we want is an influx of wannabees whose attitude
is to "turn up the gain" and clean out the channel.

The 27Mhz debacle is still too fresh in the minds of many.
Above all we must encourage technical competence.

72

JIM VE3DDY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>
Subject: [8941] RE: IARU/FASC
Message-ID: <199605241358.JAA57669@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

> One of the FEW reasons that I can think of that is really
>persuasive to retain C.W. as either an entrance requirement or
> as a mode of operation is the current lack of usable BANDWIDTH.

Take a look at the allocations. HF looks the size of a mouse turd in a 10 gallon fish tank. There's a ton of bandwidth. It's not being used because there's a perception that only HF is ham radio. Maybe we'd get lucky enough that the allocations would become *so* crowded that J. Random Lazyham would be inspired to move into the less populated bands and develop them....

>>>==>PStJTT

=====
Patrick Taber (KC1TD) Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com
Principal Software Engineer
Logiccraft Information Services
22 Cotton Road
Nashua N.H. 03063

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [8974] Re KeyCAD
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.960524132324.8711A-100000@u1.abs.net>

Someone recently asked about the symbols library for KeyCAD, which is an excellent and inexpensive drawing program (I paid \$20 for the DOS version a couple years ago, and the Windows version is probably about \$30). This is the program that I use to draw my diagrams in the QRP Quarterly in my articles and column, and which KI6DS uses for many of those in QRPP. (Doug exposed me to KeyCAD, for which I am eternally grateful.)

The symbols library that comes with it suffers in many areas, such as a woeful lack of many useful electronic symbols, not matching up properly with "realistic" snap grids, etc. I worked up my own set which includes many symbols that are necessary but that they did not include, and mine match up with realistic snap grid boundaries. I've shared my library with

several people, and now even one of them is starting to send me HIS diagrams for the Idea Exchange column in KeyCAD format :-)

Unfortunately, as some of us found out a year or two ago, due to some boneheaded software writing the DOS version and Windows version are completely, utterly and hopelessly incompatible with each other. You cannot use the symbols library from one in the other, and you cannot export drawings from one to the other. You COULD export them by using a generic output mode, like DXF, and they would load into the other version and look reasonably good, but you lose KeyCAD-specific functions like filling in of circles to make dots, filling in of triangles to make arrows, etc; the drawings don't look quite the same.

If anyone is using the DOS version and would like a copy of my electronic symbols library, let me know and we'll work something out. If you have the Windows version, sorry 'bout that.

(Since this is not specifically QRP, I have to justify its posting here, so here goes--this is a handy program which is quite useful in drawing schematics on a computer [IBM clone, at least], good for documenting your own QRP projects, and also good for publishers of QRP journals who don't already have some sort of CAD program.)

And just to be safe, here's the Obligatory QRP Content: Got a chance to look at WA6AHL's neat little QRP rig in a recycled 9 volt battery case at Dayton. It's been 6 years since the Md. Milliwatts built their DB-25 rigs, several years since announced Phase II, of which one of the options was to build something into a 9 volt battery case, so I was quite tickled to see someone finally build another tiny rig! I can't wait to see the pix that Steve Hideg took so I can show them to the others who built their own tiny rigs. As for me, I spent \$40 on surface mount parts at Dayton (SMD is allowed in Phase II), so I plan to start work fairly soon on my next tiny rig. And no, it will NOT be practical, but that was never the point on any of the tiny rigs--it's to have fun, and it most certainly is!

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: N9DD@aol.com
Subject: [8932] Re: NW8020
Message-ID: <960524083315_541842198@emout17.mail.aol.com>

After commenting well into a message about success with my 40-9er kit in a

posting a couple days ago I mentioned that my next project was a NW80-20 that I bought at Dayton. I received the following from Roy today:

>Hi Tom Just wanted to let you know that I'm here if you have any questions or >need help on the NW8020
>ROY W6EMT

Wow! What service! Is this list great, or what?

Thanks Roy. I hope to start on the rig soon. I've built quite a few QRP transceivers so I'm hopeful that things will go smoothly with this one. I chose an 80 meter kit since I don't have a home brew rig on that band (except for a Pixie-2). I enjoy competing in the various QRP contests and a home brew rig on that band will improve my chances for a better score in the contests that offer a homebrew bonus. Plus, 80 has always been one of my favorites and is a great place to rag chew.

It sure was nice that the kits were available at Dayton. I was kidding a little, but what I told the nice ham that I bought the kit from was something like "I get permission to spend money on ham radio once a year - and this is it. I brought money to buy ham stuff with me. If I don't buy at Dayton and have to mail order for something I see here, that means I'll have to spend money later.. I can hear it now "You just spent all that money going to Dayton!"". The NW80-20 is a nice rig and was on my list of possible projects to buy, but I bought it because it was available there. I understand that the expenses involved with a trip to Dayton, a booth, etc. might be impossible for the typical ham kit small operation, but I'm sure glad you had someone with a few of your kits there. Maybe some of the kit providers might consider a cooperative venture in future years - we're all friends, right?

Anyway, thanks Roy for the great offer. I'll be sure to let you know how things go with the rig.

73,

Tom Frisz N9DD
South Bend, IN
Member of: QRP-ARCI, CQC, G-QRP, MI-QRP, NorCal ..

.
N9DD TMPS 1996 Qs=020 States=13 Confirmed=02 DX=02
CA CO IN MA MD MN NH NJ NM NY OK PA TX

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: George Dorner <gdorner@kiwi.pyrotechnics.com>
Subject: [8962] Re: QRP Automatic Antenna Tuner
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960524113244.32648B-1000000@kiwi.pyrotechnics.com>

I bought one of the kits for the original tuner back before the flaming about them appeared here. I am most satisfied and found dealing with the company to be very pleasant. I recently received n "AT-11 Newsletter" which contained mods, fixes, and announcements of the QRP version and Ten-Tec enclosures. Club discounts are available and they had sold 500 kits prior to Dayton.

BTW, I had a copy of the code during the grousing about it not being printed in QST. How many of us are ready to burn our own 68HC11, much less develop our own code? (Actually, I am ... I work at acommunity college where we teach with this chip.) That particular flame session several months ago came to mind as I have been reading the current grousing on this list.

I like QRP because more is less. That's an ideal for the list to live up to, as well.

geo/w9zsj

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: "Moore, Randy (William R)" <WRMoore@ingr.com>
Subject: [8938] RE: RS DSP
Message-ID: <c=US%a=_%p=INTERGRAPH%l=HQ9960524074946XD004F00@hq15.pcmail.ingr.com>

Thanks to all for supplying the RS DSP part number - got 5 replies within hours :-)

Found one locally and hooked it up to an OHR Sprint for 30m last night. It doesn't provide much audio gain, and of course can't eliminate one side of the CW signal, but it does provide a significantly narrower bandwidth than the Sprint DC receiver. Its a physically small and light and seemingly well built unit. Comes with a DC power cord and no AC supply, which is fine for my purposes. Got it for \$34.95 here in good ole Huntspatch, AL.

72 es Tnx agn
Randy, KS4L

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: "Richard D. Richmond" <richmord@aa.wpafb.af.mil>
Subject: [8934] RE: Strange Occurance
Message-ID: <960524085335.611@ethel.aa.wpafb.af.mil.0>

Just some additional comments on the arcing and sparking that has been discussed on the net recently. Even in normal fair weather conditions, there is a voltage gradient between the earth and sky of about 300 volts/meter (that is 100 volts per foot above the ground). During storm conditions, this potential can exceed 15,000 v/m!! Any structure connected to the ground and protruding up into the air will experience this voltage differential. That goes for buildings, towers, suspended wires and golfers on the fairway! The electrical field around the object is distorted and when the distortion causes the field strength to exceed air breakdown, a corona discharge can occur at the top of the structure. This discharge creates a current in the structure that could cause the type of arcing discussed in the previous messages. The corona also creates a charge cloud at the top of the structure that can act as a shield between the structure and the charges in the overhead clouds. This is the primary function of lightning rods. The effect of wind is to blow this charge cloud away thus causing the corona current to continue. Working at the Air Force Atmospheric Electricity Hazards Laboratory, we often used this effect to trigger lightning strikes during field experiments. Any vertical antenna should have some type of DC ground, spark gap or Blitz Bug type of arrestor. Long wire antennas, such as from a kite, should always be directly grounded before you handle the wire. For anyone that might be interested in some additional information, check in your local university library for a book titled "Atmospheric Electricity" by J. Alan Chalmers.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Peter Zenker <100743.3320@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [8922] RE:Strange Occurrence / Solution
Message-ID: <960524083121_100743.3320_EHV68-7@CompuServe.COM>

That's a normal problem with GPs and / or ladder line feed antennas. They act as a big capacity and under special weather conditions all the static energy in the air loads the antenna. The strongest arcing I've seen was with a full size 7MHz GP running 100 radials 45 meters up on a flat roof. With a frequency of about 2 Hz I got arcing between the connector and ground over a distance of 3 cm.

You can solve the problem: solder a >100k resistor between the inner connector of the coax and ground. You can do this inside the box. This will NOT affect your RX or TX, but will protect your box (those sparks will damage the box long time)

Peter, DL2FI

E-mail von: Peter Zenker, 24-May-1996

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: Roger Hightower <aa7qy@dancris.com>
Subject: [8940] RE: TO IARU FASC
Message-ID: <199605241346.GAA15832@user.dancris.com>

At 12:29 PM 5/23/96 PDT, owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU wrote:

> Fellow QRPers:
>
> Response back from my post regarding FASC committee within IARU.
>
> 73,
> Mark
>

Last year I had some e-mail exchanges with David Sumner K1ZZ and Larry Price, W4RA in which they both assured me the ARRL position was to retain the code requirement. I don't think they have changed, but we do need to provide some valid, unemotional reasons. None of the code vs no-code arguments, no flames, but simple reasons why knowledge/use of CW is necessary.

Still scratching my head to put an objective message together, but am working on it.

72/73, de Roger AA7QY

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri May 24 22:36:42 1996
From: bowman@montana.com (robert bowman)
Subject: [8989] Re: W1FB Noise Reduction Unit
Message-ID: <199605250235.UAA20742@paw.montana.com>

>It uses a short sensing antenna to recieve local QRN which is cancelled out by
>phase inversion with the signal from the station antenna.

i have a Ford pickup, and they are notorious noise generators. i experimented with placing a probe in the engine compartment, and mixing it with the antenna input. i got sidetracked on more pressing projects, but the technique showed definite promise.

>P.S. Does this list seem rather "POSTal" today?? ; >)

the signal seems to have sunk into the noise floor lately.